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Message Text

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64
ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 TRSE-00 COME-00 SS-20 L-03 DRC-01

RSC-01 /062 W
---------- 121162
R 251728Z JUL 74
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4022

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DEPARTMENT FOR ENDERS

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EFIN, GW
SUBJECT: VISIT OF FORMER UNDER SECRETARY BALL

REF: STATE 159851

1.CROWLEY, HERMBERG AND I MET TODAY WITH GEORGE BALL AND R. N. CHRISTIANSEN FOR A FULL DISCUSSION OF THE HERSTATT BANK CLOSURE AND THE CLAIMS OF THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF SEATTLE RESULTING FROM THE INTERRUPTION OF THE FOREIGN EXCHANGE CLEARING CYCLE. WE TOLD BALL THAT WE ARE CLOSELY WATCHING AND REPORTING ON DEVELOPMENTS AND PENDING INSTRUCTIONS FROM WASHINGTON, WHICH ALSO WATCHING CLOSELY, HAVE NOT TAKEN
ANY ACTIVE STEPS.
WE INDICATED THAT IN OUR VIEW THE OUTCOME OF THE SEATTLE FIRST NATIONAL'S CLAIM WOULD DEPEND PRIMARILY ON THE STRENGTH OF ITS LEGAL CASE AND THAT WE THOUGHT THAT THE CHANCES OF POLITICAL PRESSURE IN THIS CASE BEING PRODUCTIVE WERE RELATIVELY SMALL.

2. WE EXPLORED WITH BALL WHAT POSSIBLE ACTION THE USG MIGHT BE ABLE TO TAKE. BALL SAID THAT AFTER REVIEWING THE SITUATION HE HAD NO PARTICULAR THOUGHTS OF HIS OWN AS TO WHAT COULD OR SHOULD BE DONE.
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3. I TOLD BALL THAT WE WOULD CONTINUE TO FOLLOW THIS MATTER AND KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR ANY WAY IN WHICH WE COULD BE HELPFUL IN FURTHERING INTERESTS US, AT OUR SUGGESTION SEATTLE FIRST
NATIONAL WILL STAY IN TOUCH WITH THE EMBASSY ON THIS PROBLEM AND BALL INDICATED THAT HE ALSO WOULD AGAIN DISCUSS PROBLEM WITH AUTHORITIES.
CASH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Draft Date: 25 JUL 1974
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Disposition Authority: kelleyw0
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